



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/624,646	07/23/2003	Hideki Kanie	A-9906	6902

181 7590 07/01/2004

MILES & STOCKBRIDGE PC
1751 PINNACLE DRIVE
SUITE 500
MCLEAN, VA 22102-3833

EXAMINER

SAETHER, FLEMMING

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

3677

DATE MAILED: 07/01/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/624,646	Applicant(s) KANIE, HIDEKI	
	Examiner Flemming Saether	Art Unit 3677	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 27 July 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____ |

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1 and 4-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Battie (US 6,070,836) in view of Courtin (US 6,155,762). Battie discloses a mounting device having a main body (8) with a bore (3) for receiving a stud and a component mounting section (1, 2). As seen in Fig. 3, the bore includes a plurality of pawls (15, 16) each having a thin section (15) forming a hinge and connected to an inner wall of the bore and a thick section (16) located at an opposite end of the thin section. Prior to insertion of the stud the pawls extend substantially perpendicular to an axis of the bore (Fig. 3) and with the insertion of the stud, the pawls for an angle of substantially less than 90 degrees (Fig. 6). Furthermore, the pawls facilitate insertion of the stud from either end of the bore. Battie does not disclose the thick portion of the pawls to be provided with an engaging section and a groove. Courtin discloses a device comprising a bore (not labeled) for receiving a stud (22) including a pawl (6) having a thin pivot section (11) leading to the thick section (12). As seen in Figs. 3 and 5, the thick section has an engaging section (16) for being received between thread crests and a groove (15) for receiving the thread crests. At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art to provide the thick section of the pawls of Battie with an engaging section and a groove as disclosed in

Art Unit: 3677

Courtin in order to better engage the stud and, the better the stud engagement, the less likely is the mounting device to be dislodged from the stud. The skilled artisan would have recognized to provide both sides of the thick section with the engagement section and groove in order to continue to facilitate operation from both ends.

Claims 2, 3 and 7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Battie in view of Courtin as applied to claim 1 and 4-6 above, and further in view of Kraus (US 4,999,019). Kraus teaches to form the engagement section and groove of a plurality of pawls (3) in an arcuate shape (see Fig. 2). At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art to make the engagement section and groove of the pawls disclosed in modified Battie in an arcuate shape as disclosed in Kraus to further improve the engagement of the mounting device to the stud and further lessen the likelihood of the mounting device becoming dislodged from the stud.

Claims 8 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Battie in view of Courtin and Kraus as applied to claims 4-7 above, and further in view of Miura (US 5,816,762). Miura teaches to form the pawls (21A) as staggered along the inner wall of the bore. At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art to make the pawls disclosed in modified Battie staggered as disclosed in Miura to still further improve the engagement of the mounting device to

Art Unit: 3677

the stud and again still further lessen the likelihood of the mounting device becoming dislodged from the stud.

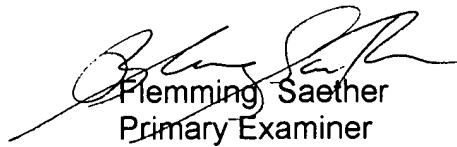
Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Flemming Saether whose telephone number is 703-308-0182. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Judy Swann can be reached on 703-306-4115. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Flemming Saether
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3677